

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2138

Introduced by Assembly Member Gatto

February 20, 2014

An act add Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 12045) to Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to innovation awards, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2138, as introduced, Gatto. Innovation awards.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Human Resources to make awards to current or retired state employees for proposing procedures or ideas that are adopted and put into effect and result in eliminating or reducing state expenditures or improving operations, or for making exceptional contributions to the efficiency, economy, or other improvement in the operations of state government.

This bill would require the Governor to designate 3 state agencies to participate in a pilot program in 2015 to award cash prizes to participants in innovation contests. The bill would require each designated agency to establish and administer an innovation contest, as prescribed, and on or before January 1, 2016, award a \$25,000 prize to a participant the state agency determines to have submitted the entry that best addresses the subject of the contest, in accordance with standards established by the state agency, and has the highest likelihood of being adopted and placed in effect. The bill would appropriate \$75,000 from the General Fund to the Governor for allocation to the designated state agencies for those awards.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 12045) is added to Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

Article 4.5. Innovation Awards

12045. (a) The Governor shall designate three state agencies to participate in a pilot program to award cash prizes to participants in an innovation contest established by each designated agency pursuant to this article.

(b) A sum in the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Governor, for allocation to three state agencies designated by the Governor in accordance with subdivision (a), for the award by each designated state agency of a twenty-five-thousand-dollar (\$25,000) prize in the contests described this article.

(c) The innovation contests shall be held in 2015.

(d) Each state agency designated by the Governor in accordance with subdivision (a) shall determine the specific subject of the innovation contest to be held by the agency, which may include proposals that detail a procedure, plan, design, or idea to contribute to the efficiency, economy, or other improvement in the operations of the state agency, including, not limited to, streamlining an existing process or system of the state agency or the design of a feedback system for the state agency.

(e) Each designated state agency shall administer its innovation contest, including, but not limited to, publicizing the contest and determining the standards for participation and award. Each designated state agency may adopt rules and regulations to carry out this article.

(f) On or before January 1, 2016, each designated state agency shall award a twenty-five-thousand-dollar (\$25,000) prize to the participant the agency determines to have submitted the entry that best addresses the subject of the contest, in accordance with the standards established by the agency, and has the highest likelihood of being adopted and placed in effect.

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